

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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REC'D 24 AUG 2005

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference OT-5177	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPBA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US03/19944	International filing date (day/month/year) 23 June 2003 (23.06.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): B66B 1/16, 1/18 and US Cl.: 187/380,386,387		
Applicant OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 2 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 11 June 2004 (11.06.2004)	Date of completion of this report 20 July 2005 (20.07.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPBA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPBA/ US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer Jonathan Salata <i>Jonathan Salata</i> Telephone No. 703-308-0956

Form PCT/IPBA/409 (cover sheet)(July 1998)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/19944

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description:
pages 1-6 as originally filed
pages NONE filed with the demand
pages NONE filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the claims:
pages NONE as originally filed
pages 7 and 8 as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
pages NONE filed with the demand
pages NONE filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the drawings:
pages 1-2 as originally filed
pages NONE filed with the demand
pages NONE filed with the letter of _____.
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages NONE as originally filed
pages NONE filed with the demand
pages NONE filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages None
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 1
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/fig None

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US03/19944

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. STATEMENT

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>2-4</u>	YES
	Claims <u>None</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>2-4</u>	YES
	Claims <u>None</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>2-4</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 2-4 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the determination of the estimate of elapse time, travel time, perceived travel time and service time for the determination of each car available in a particular hall call.

Claims 2-4 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus meet industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

IPEA/US

Claims

1. Cancelled
2. A method of assigning selected ones of a plurality of elevator cars to answer hall calls outstanding in a multifloor building, characterized by:
 - (a) for each car available to serve a particular hall call outstanding in a building -
 - (b) determining (45) an estimate of the time that will elapse after being registered before each said call will be answered;
 - (c) providing (46) a perceived wait time as a first constant times a first non-linear function of each said wait time;
 - (d) determining (47) an estimate of the travel time that will elapse after said each call is answered before reaching an estimated destination of a passenger registering said each call;
 - (e) providing (51) a perceived travel time as a second constant times a second non-linear function of each said travel time; and
 - (f) providing (52) said perceived service time as a summation of said perceived wait time and said perceived travel time for each said wait time and corresponding travel time; and
 - (g) allocating (59-61) cars to respond to hall calls based on said perceived service times.
3. A method according to claim 2 wherein:

said second constant and said second non-linear function are selected along with said first constant and said first non-linear function so that a hall call having a relatively long wait time for a particular car will have a relatively short travel time to reach an estimated duration in said particular car.

AMENDED SHEET

4. A method of assigning selected ones of a plurality of elevator cars to answer up hall calls and down hall calls outstanding in a multifloor building, characterized by:

(a) for each car available to serve a particular hall call outstanding in a building, providing (52) a perceived service time having components (45, 46) based on the estimated time for a selected car to answer said hall call and having components (47, 51) based on the estimated time for said selected car to reach an estimated destination corresponding to said hall call;

(b) providing the square (53) of each said perceived service time;

(c) for all possible sets of assignments of all said up hall calls and down hall calls outstanding in said building, providing (59) a summation of said squares; and

assigning cars to calls (60) in accordance with the one of said sets having the lowest of said summations (61).